

# NEWSLETTER

## california state park rangers association

Volume VI Number 54

April 1994

### Partnerships in Parks

by Kathy Pilcher State Park Ranger  
I, Anza-Borrego Desert State Park

Partnerships in Parks. The theme of this year's CSPRA/PRAC Workshop held March 7-10 in Riverside seemed more appropriate than



ever as resource agencies have had to look for ways to stretch thinning budgets further during troubled economic times. Never have cooperating associations, volunteering and partnerships between agencies seemed more important. Looking around at this conference it was easy to see that theme in action. Attending were members of county, regional and state parks - along with representatives of the federal government and private sectors. Those offering (continued on page 3)

### Save Bodie Update

by Donna Pozzi

If you have been wondering why there hasn't been a status report on the Bodie issue for several months, the reason is that there have been no new developments. The Bodie Protection Act, which was passed by the House of Representatives last May, still awaits action by the Senate subcommittee. As you'll recall, there was a hearing late last July but (Continued on page 4)

### CSPRA is Thirty Years Old

CSPRA was conceived at a Park Supervisors meeting in Columbia in the winter of 1964. The issue that sparked the birth of CSPRA was a suggestion by a park commissioner that rangers at Columbia and other historic parks be required to wear "period dress." The Park Supervisor's of District Three were incensed by the idea and decided that something had to be done. In November of that same year CSPRA held its first board meeting.

The Legislature and the Sierra Club have presented CSPRA with certificates of commendation commemorating this accomplishment. (See insert) We hope to have other activities this year celebrating this historic event.

### On The Inside

President's Message	2
DPR Skiers	5
1985 Workshop	7
State Parks Month	7
Humor . . .	7

### Photo

Workshop participants listening to Karen Pluff tell about the Stephen's Kangaroo Rat at Lake Perris SRA.

## President's Message

Well, here we go again! Deja vu and all that sort of stuff! It's amazing that I haven't written a column for a couple of years, but the subject matter hasn't seemed to change. Same old things — beware of concessions, cattle, and reduced budgets.

**Concessions:** We've talked a lot about concessions but not a great deal has happened. In some ways maybe that's to our credit. A lot of things that have been suggested would seriously challenge the integrity of individual units and the system in general. But before we pat ourselves on the back too heartily we need to look at the realities more. We haven't made any points with the Department of Finance, the legislature, and the administration. And they do control our budget. We need to be more pro-active and find concession opportunities that truly serve the park public, or we may find that others will make the decision on what concessions are appropriate. I'm not saying that we should sell out the resources, but I'd much rather that we stay in the decision-making process.

**Cattle:** I represented CSPRA in recent legislative hearings on the issue of livestock grazing in units of the system. There were some very positive results of that process. The experts on both sides of the issue seemed to agree that long-term, year-round grazing on park lands is not appropriate. They talked about benefits of the grazing to grasslands ecosystems. The only push for commercial grazing came not unexpectedly from the grazing industry. They still view park lands as vacant and non-productive.

It's too bad that they can't be open-minded like me, and see that there is a difference between parks and ranches. Both are valid and necessary, but not together on the same land. Wouldn't it be great if the park movement and the ranching industry could form an alliance and fight the common enemy — urban and commercial development that impacts both land uses? Parks aren't responsible for raising land values and taxes that drive land owners to

take land out of agriculture.

There could be a lot more said on this subject but it's a forever subject so we'll take it up another time.

**Budget Woes:** Another perpetual subject. We can't keep begging and borrowing to survive. We must have a permanent funding source. Everyone agrees on this but it never seems to happen. We need to see that it does.

In the meantime, we have to see that CALPAW II passes in June. If it doesn't, we are in really deep yogurt for the next several years. Estimates of about 90 layoffs at headquarters alone. Volunteer enhancement, stewardship, acquisition, capital outlay development, handicap retrofit, and many other programs will be history. We need one last bond act and then put all our energies into permanent funding.

**CALPAW and Henry Agonia:** One subject I thought I'd never have to write about again is Ol' Henry. Can you believe that he has come out against CALPAW and is even signing the ballot argument against it as the ex-director of the department. He didn't have a clue about much of what was happening when he was director so at least he remains consistent. I wonder how many grants his park district has received from bond act monies? When CALPAW passes, the department should remember to take non-action on any future grant applications from him. But that's not fair to the people of North Bakersfield and would sink us to his depth. This isn't very gracious of me, is it? If he were signing the ballot argument as the manager of his park district, I would have let it pass, but when he does it in the name of the California Department of Parks and Recreation, he opened the season on himself.

**Bodie:** The battle goes on, and it is still costing money! You recently received a request for help. It's needed — so please help. I'm going to give and hope you will too.

Bud Getty

## Partnerships (Continued from page 1)

workshops also spanned the entire spectrum of backgrounds and all had interesting viewpoints to offer.

The theme of partnerships was evident throughout all the sessions I attended. Joy Wolf of SeaWorld gave us tips on interpreting to children. She may come from the world of commercial science, but her enthusiasm was contagious and her ideas thoroughly adaptable to campfire and Junior Ranger programs, as well as other presentations many rangers take into public schools. Dr. Gary Bell came to us from the Nature Conservancy and told us not only about his organization's abilities -

but also their dreams and goals of preserving whole ecosystems by acquiring and adjoining parcels of habitat. His prime example was the Santa Rosa Plateau in southern California - an area that requires the cooperation of local land owners plus no fewer than four government agencies - including the U.S. Forest Service, California Department of Fish & Game, California Department of Forestry & Fire Protection and Riverside County agencies. Much of the acreage held in that trust was made possible through purchase by the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California for mitigation of a new reservoir project nearby. It was an amazing example of public and private partnerships in the management of natural areas.

Another instance of partnerships was illustrated by Liam Davis of the California Department of Fish & Game. He is one of a few associate biologists charged with implementing the brand-new Natural Community Conservation Planning Program. The effort to preserve some of the last few remaining patches of coastal sage scrub in southern California (habitat of the California gnatcatcher and many other rare, threatened and endangered plants and animals) will require the cooperation of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, state and county departments of parks and recreation and a myriad of private agencies, not to mention the ever-eager land "developers." In uphill battles it is always good to have the combined efforts of many to make the whole team stronger.

Admittedly I was drawn to the resources track for a good portion of my stay at the

workshop due to the kind of park I work in and because of personal interest in habitat preservation. Although the multi-agency park partnerships are well developed in that area and are fascinating to hear about — there is little doubt there is increasing cooperation in the interpretive and operations areas also. "Necessity is the mother of invention" — it was probably someone who worked for parks who first said that!

The "Mountain Lions in Parks" panel discussion was one of the most informative and best discussions I have ever attended. This despite the fact that I work in a district where several cougar incidents have occurred and I had already heard so much. Each of the six panel members had something pertinent to say and I learned much more about mountain lions — everything from behaviors to litigation perspectives to the new protocol DPR is designing. Again I was watching partnerships at work. Several people from different fields combining expertise to come up with a plan to handle Mountain Lion incidents. In time it is likely that all park districts will have increased wild animal/park visitor encounters as human populations and suburbs expand and habitats are squeezed. To be ready with written protocol to guide us will be a comfort, but in the meantime it seems that the name of the game is education and informing the public in whatever ways we can be effective. Human behavior will play a big role in the welfare of wildlife. Visitors need to understand that wilderness carries some risks and that wild animals that become dangerous to humans cannot simply be moved somewhere else or removed to a zoo. The idea of having to destroy a wild creature creates an uproar with the public and a burden on rangers' hearts. Hopefully we can be ready and ahead of the game when the time comes again, as it surely will.

Huell Howser, the producer and host of the PBS TV series "California's Gold" was this year's keynote speaker and offered a whole new aspect of partnerships. I confess I had never heard of the man until that day (it is hard to believe that cable television has not yet invaded every corner of California). We thought we had great jobs — but here is a guy who has designed a job that allows him to travel throughout California and explore the little known and wonderful places, and then let everyone else in on them that is, (Continued on page 4)

## Partnerships (Continued from page 3)

everyone with cable who watches PBS). And he likes us! He wants to show off California's State Parks and bring back the golden age of tourism. Apparently the public loves the man and the show, as Mr. Howser claims the response to his program is 99%+ positive. He certainly had his Riverside audience smiling, and I think he left slightly overwhelmed by all the ideas given to him for future programs in various parks.

There is one area of park partnerships I cannot help but notice in closing. We have spent a lot of time reaching out to other agencies and sharing of resources with many good results — as this workshop can attest to. Even so — there seems to be a gap in the partnerships inside State Parks. At the many workshops and conferences I have attended since becoming a CSPRA member I have seen the same faces (for the most part) again and again. In itself that is **GREAT** and we certainly enjoy renewing acquaintances and getting caught up with each other — but where are the new faces? The cadet classes that came behind me and the many rangers that came before me? What keeps us from forming the partnerships that can make us stronger as a team working for "California's Gold"?

I have no idea how large the membership of CSPRA is — but should we not be reaching out into the ranks of our own employees and finding ways to draw them in to fill the gap and enlarge the circle? In the hard times we have been experiencing it is of special importance to remind everyone why CSPRA can be good for the morale of the park system and how valuable stronger ranks can be. I am delighted to see noted in this year's workshop program that the many other affiliate associations of State Parks will be invited (and I hope encouraged) to attend next year's conference in Santa Rosa. Now that's Park Partnerships!

## Save Bodie! (Continued from page 1)

the bill has still not come up for a vote.

Unfortunately, it seems that the bill has gotten caught up in the controversies surrounding two much larger pieces of legislation: the California Desert bill, also authored by Senator Feinstein, the author of the Bodie bill; and reform of the 1872 Mining Law, which still needs to be reconciled by a conference committee. A major opponent of both of these bills is Wyoming's Senator Wallop, the ranking minority member of the committee holding the Bodie bill. The House author of the Bodie bill is Representative Lehman, who is now chairman of the House mining sub-committee and a principal advocate for mining law reform, as well as the Desert bill. So, it appears that nothing will happen with the Bodie Protection Act until all the deals are made to resolve the two bigger bills.

It would be helpful if Governor Wilson would ask his old colleague Senator Wallop to let the Bodie bill move forward. The Governor does support the Bodie legislation but has not actively worked for its passage. As of this writing, we are still hoping that the Governor will write to Wallop. Without Wilson's intervention the bill will probably be seriously weakened, or allowed to die. Considering that the bill has the support of the local Board of Supervisors, both of California's U.S. Senators, the California Legislature (remember SJR 60?), and the House of Representatives, it's very discouraging to think that it could fail again if it's not passed by the Senate during this second year of the 103rd Congress. Nonetheless, we will keep working and I believe we'll win!

One of the reasons for my optimism is the phenomenal response of CSPRA members to our recent Save Bodie! fund appeal. Although many CSPRA members had contributed in the past, we had never done a direct mailing requesting donations. This seemed silly since we were purchasing lists of names of "strangers" and asking them to support our campaign. Our mailings have always been successful and this one is no exception! Processing all of the responses has been very heartwarming — so many of you included encouraging messages with your checks. Thank you all for your continued support. (Continued on page 5)

## **Save Bodie!** (Continued from page 4)

your volunteer time, your letter-writing, your financial contributions, and your moral support.

The following individuals have responded, thus far, with donations:

### **CSPRA Donors**

Harriet Allen  
Samuel R. Bitting  
Jean Bowdoin  
Ron Brean  
Janet & Dave Carle  
Dorene Clement  
Joan Eckles  
Stacy Edge  
Kate Foley  
Bruce Kennedy  
Harvey Lively  
Chuck Lyden  
Mike & Patricia Lynch  
Joe McCall  
Joe & Stacey Mette  
Dan Murley  
Roma Rentz  
Jeff Snider  
Brad Sturdivant  
Garth Tanner  
Al Ulm  
Charlie Willard  
Norm Wilson  
Assoc. of Calif. State Park Superintendents  
Sandy Playa & Carl Burger  
Tylor Conrad  
George & Arleen Cook  
Kathy Franklin  
Walter R. Johnston  
Lyle Keith  
Bill Krumbein  
Bob La Belle  
Frank Lortie  
Nedra Martinez  
Bill Miller  
Kirby & Carol Morgan  
John Mott  
Jim & Beverly Neal  
Bobbie Olsen  
Kim Preston  
John Quirk  
Lee Sencenbaugh  
Helen & Bob Tardif  
Joann Weiler  
Mike Whitehead  
Mary Wright  
Jeri Zemon

For more information now or at any time, please call or write Save Bodie! at CSPRA's 800 number or P.O. Box.

## **DPR Nordic Racers: The Class of Winter Games** by John Kolsrud

### **Kirkwood Meadows**

On a crisp and windy February 28th morning, 3 DPR rangers met for the start of the 9th Annual International Police Winter Games (IPWG). Veteran racers Robert Leiterman (Big Sur) and John Kolsrud (Santa Cruz) were joined by newcomer Janet Carle (Sierra).

The nordic biathlon course, a 4Km rolling, curvy, and technical race brought out the experience and endurance of the 3 fine DPR racers. All 3 skiers took early morning practice rounds at the range and their punctuality was rewarded with a 1st heat start. The fast track and consistent shooting marked a beginning of the DPR medals blitz.

Robert Leiterman's 22:50 time was just .44 hundredths of a minute from the Gold in the Junior Vets (20-30 years) age group. He settled for the Silver medal with a shot miss being the narrow margin between 1st and 2nd.

Kolsrud and Carle competed in the very strong Masters A (40-50 years) division. They finished with fine shooting performances for Silver (Kolsrud) and Bronze (Carle). Both nosed out Charlie Locke, annually the Gold medalist and premier marathon racer from the San Joaquin County Sheriff's Department. (Carle beat Locke's time by 5 hundredths of a minute!) Tom "The Flash" Wickman, the flying Finn from Boulder, Colorado Police Department took the Gold medal by 3 minutes over Kolsrud and was the top nordic racer for the week.

The afternoon 5 km race had a new twist this year. A steep 1 km hill climb/descent was inserted into the middle of the flat valley course.

As track conditions held up for the first lap all 3 DPR racers had solid split times. The hill climb weeded out a few of the technically challenged racers and the soft 2nd lap of the valley taxed every racer's endurance.

Robert Leiterman again powered to the Silver medal, while John Kolsrud finished 5th in Masters "A". Janet Carle was not far off with a Gold medal time in the Masters "B" division. (Continued on page 6)

## Nordic Racers

(Continued from page 5)

On Tuesday March 1 Rangers Leiterman and Kolsrud drove around Lake Tahoe (many racers take the party boat across) to Squaw Creek resort. This year the 7 km course started in rolling tree-protected north facing woods and dropped out onto the soft snow of the valley floor. Returning, the course had a major series of hills to climb/descend in the final 2 km, again hugging the north slope with good snow for the hearty climbers.

"The last hill climb was challenging, but you could gain a lot of ground on the other racers," said a happy Bob Leiterman who again grabbed the Silver medal, his 3rd in 3 races!

John Kolsrud was able to hold off a strong challenge on the final hill. On the downhill tuck Kolsrud narrowly missed a fallen skier in the track. On one ski, not by his choice, he maneuvered a 90 degree right turn between a berm and the skier (a 3-foot clearance). Holding it together and skating hard the last 100 yards, Kolsrud again finished with a 5th place medal in the strong Masters "A" group of skaters.



## Alpine — Heavenly Valley

John Kolsrud was the lone DPR Alpine racer. Having participated in the race clinic two days earlier he put his new technique to good use on March 2 on the slalom course of the World Cup.

Kolsrud had a respectable 1st run, 1.4 seconds off the lead. Remembering his race clinic coaches' pointers he used a quick start, solid step overs at each gate and cut off an amazing 3.2 seconds for the Gold medal in Masters "D".

Bumped up to "C" division for his GS and Super G races Kolsrud had two more good days of racing.

Ski length may have been the main reason for his 2 8th place finishes.

Racers again came from such exotic lands as Austria (the 5 top alpine racers), Japan, England, Canada, New Zealand, Australia, as well as USA. Some 350 peace officers-turned skiers again took part in the week-long event.

\*\*Not entering as a 2-man team, cost Leiterman and Kolsrud a 17th place finish out of 56 teams.



## Photos

DPR Racers (L-R) Robert Leiterman, Janet Carle and John Kolsrud.

Top Guns — The tough 1994 International Masters "A" Nordic Division.

## **State Parks Month** by Ted Hilliard Special Assistant to the Director

Governor Pete Wilson has proclaimed May 1994 as State Parks Month. To mark the observance, the California Department of Parks and Recreation, under the theme of "Fun, Family and Friends," will be holding many exciting events in State Park units throughout California.

Given the tremendous variety of events occurring throughout the state, there is something to attract everyone.

I have limited additional quantities of the State Parks Special Events Calendar. If you have questions or are interested in receiving the next edition of the Special Events Calendar, please contact John Arnold, Travel Information Coordinator, at (916) 653-7090.

## **Humor In Unicorn** by Jeff Price

A new method for budget constraint. "The Governor is really tightening the gloves."

Backing accident? "He was sure hot behind the collar."

What a great filing concept. "Just key hole punch it an put it in a binder."

Caught in another underhanded predicament. "He's wrapped under her finger."

An out of body experience? "... in a very vicarious position ..."

Don't you dump that on me! "I'm well aware of the statue of eliminations."

So just what did she mean? "Beauty runs skin deep, but friends are thicker than water."

Round the horn? "We had a ball of a time."

## **First 1995 Workshop Planning Meeting Held in Santa Rosa**

On April 8 representatives of the League of California Non-Profit Associations, California Park and Conservation Association, the Park Rangers Association of California and the California State Park Rangers Association met at the Doubletree Inn in Santa Rosa. Mike Lynch was supposed to have been their representing the State Park Peace Officers Association of California but was ill. Bill Mennell was planning to attend but had an important work obligation and could not attend. All of the organizations above have committed to meet next March in what is hoped to be the first annual California Parks Workshop.

The California State Park Superintendent's Association has indicated an interest in participating in next years meeting but did not attend this meeting. The Lifeguards Association has not answered our letter of invitation. The Friends have announced that they will not be able to participate.

The following were agreed on for next years workshop:

- \*Registration will include the banquet a reduced cost for the luncheon so that everyone is included in all activities.

- \*A featured speaker will be included with the banquet.

- \*The tours and golf tournament will be at the beginning of the workshop on Monday.

- \*There won't be any activities on the day after the banquet.

- \*This will be the best workshop yet.

If you want to be on next year's planning committee or would like to make a presentation write CSPRA headquarters or call the 800 number.

CSPRA

**Registration will include the banquet and a reduced price on the lunch.**

**April**

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**CSPRA  
Calendar**

**Gold Rush  
Workshop  
May 9-13**

**CSPRA-PRAC  
Annual Workshop  
March 6-10, 1995**

**Directors**

David A. Nelson  
State Park Superintendent  
Delta District  
(916) 777-7701  
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Scott Nakaji  
State Park Ranger I  
Hungry Valley Headquarters  
(805) 248-6447  
\*\*\*\*\*

Susan Grove  
State Park Ranger II  
American River District  
(916) 988-0205  
\*\*\*\*\*

**Save Bodie!** and all other  
committees use CSPRA address.  
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**For additional information on the  
association, write the  
Office Manager.**

The NEWSLETTER (ISSN 0887-9176) is published by CSPRA, P.O. Box 292010, Sacramento, CA 95829. The NEWSLETTER'S Editor is Doug Bryce; contributing editors and authors are as noted. Articles are welcome, 1000 words or less. All submissions become the property of CSPRA and may be edited without notice. **The deadline for articles is the 15th of the month prior to publication.**

# Sierra Club California Letter of Commendation

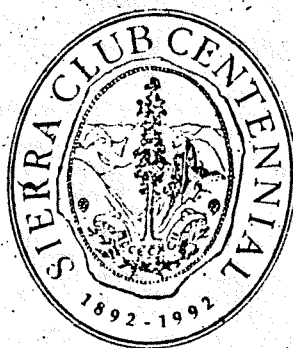
From Sierra Club California; Relative to commending the

## CALIFORNIA STATE PARK RANGERS ASSOCIATION

**Whereas**, the California State Park Rangers Association has for thirty years worked to assure that the people of California have the opportunity to enjoy the State's historical, cultural, and natural resources; and

**Whereas**, the California State Park Rangers Association is responsible for the creation of countless parks within the California State Park System; therefore

**Sierra Club California** commends the California State Park Rangers Association for its outstanding work to promote and protect California's state parks.



Subscribed on this 3rd day in March, 1994

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Hans Hemann".

Hans Hemann  
Legislative Representative

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Dan Sullivan".

Dan Sullivan  
Executive Committee  
Chair

# Assembly



## RESOLUTION

By Assembly Members Dominic L. Cortese, Deirdre Alpert, Dean Andal, Vivien Bronshvag, Valerie Brown, Cruz Bustamante, Louis Caldera, Bob Campbell, Sal Cannella, Tom Connolly, Mickey Conroy, Jim Costa, Delaine Eastin, Bob Eppe, Dan Hauser, Robert Frazee, Trice Harvey, Kathleen M. Honeycutt, Phillip Isenberg, Richard Katz, Diane Martinez, Gwen Moore, Jack O'Connell, Richard Rainey, Andrea Seastrand, Byron Sher, Margaret Snyder, Hilda L. Solis, Stan Statham, Tom Umberg, and John Vasconcellos

By Senators Alfred E. Alquist, Robert G. Beverly, Ralph C. Dills, Frank Hill, Dave Kelley, Bill Lockyer, Robert Presley, Don Rogers, Mike Thompson, and Art Torres; Relative to commending the

### CALIFORNIA STATE PARK RANGERS ASSOCIATION

WHEREAS, The California State Park Rangers Association (CSPRA) is a professional organization of employees of the California Department of Parks and Recreation, and it is appropriate at this time to congratulate it upon the occasion of its 30th anniversary and to commend its members for their distinguished record of public service; and

WHEREAS, The California State Park Rangers Association is also comprised of retired state park employees, former state park employees, and state park supporters; and

WHEREAS, The objectives of CSPRA are to promote the protection and interpretation of the natural and cultural resources of California's rich state park heritage, and to provide a medium of exchange of professional thought through conferences, training courses, and seminars for park employees; and

WHEREAS, CSPRA provides a forum for shared knowledge and expertise with other local, national, and international park organizations; and

WHEREAS, CSPRA has provided outstanding leadership in environmental education including assistance in developing the Junior Ranger Program which teaches environmental stewardship; and

WHEREAS, It has been a leader in a number of efforts to protect the integrity of the natural and cultural resources of the California State Park System such as Bodie State Historic Park, and it contributes to the 268 units of the State Park System which includes 38 units administered by local and regional park agencies and which serves over 70 million visitors each year; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY ASSEMBLY MEMBER DOMINIC L. CORTESE AND THE ABOVE-NAMED COAUTHORS, That the California State Park Rangers Association be congratulated upon the celebration of its 30th anniversary, recognized for its invaluable record of assistance to the California Department of Parks and Recreation, and commended for being a driving force in assuring that the people of the State of California be provided a meaningful environment in which to understand and appreciate their cultural, historical, and natural heritage.

Members Resolution No. 408

Dated this 3rd day of March, 1994

*Dominic Cortese*

Honorable Dominic L. Cortese  
23rd Assembly District  
On behalf of the above Members

